

*Can.
Paw*

Mee, George S.

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

GEORGE S. MEE.

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

GEORGE S. MEE,

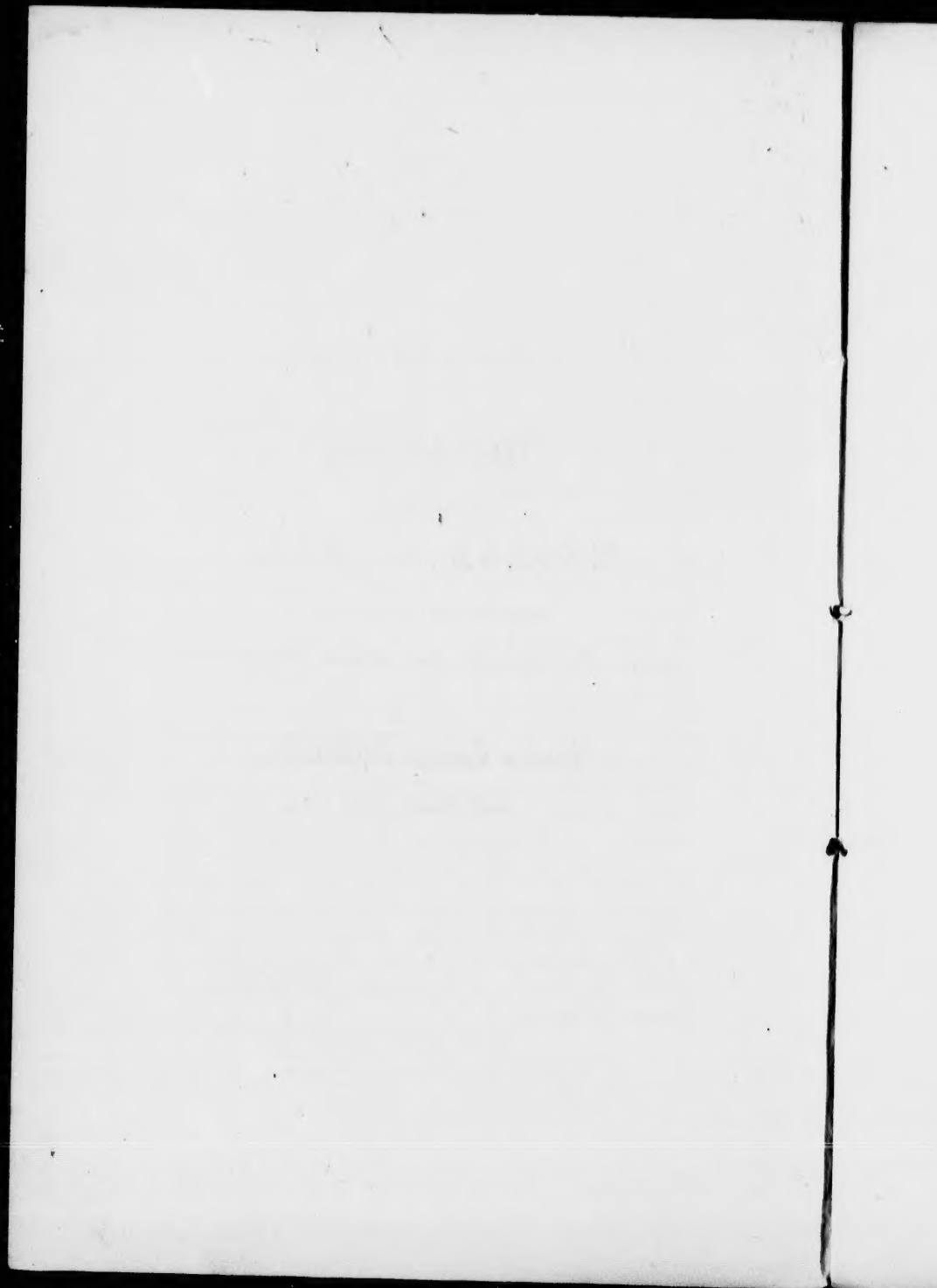
CANDIDATE FOR THE CHAIR OF

LOGIC AND MENTAL AND MORAL PHILOSOPHY

IN

Queen's College University.

KINGSTON, C.W.



TESTIMONIALS.

From ROBERT BUCHANAN, A.M., *Professor of Logic and Rhetoric in the University of Glasgow.*

MR. GEORGE S. MEE was a Matriculated Student in the Public Logic Class of the University of Glasgow, throughout session of College 1855-56. In all the departments of the business of the Course he was eminently and equally distinguished; and, at the close of the session, the highest place in his division of the class was adjudged to him by the votes of his fellow-students. Since he left College, Mr. MEE has not been under my personal observation, but I have reason to know that he has continued zealously to cultivate the branches of study which were his favourites, and in which he excelled, during his attendance at the University. From my recollections of the acuteness and intelligence displayed by him in the examinations and compositions of the class, and of his taste for, and special acquaintance with, these subjects in particular, I know few whom I should consider so well qualified as Mr. MEE to conduct with success the studies of youth in the kindred branches of Logic and Metaphysics, in any of the higher educational institutions of our country.

ROB. BUCHANAN, M.A.,

Professor of Logic and Rhetoric in the University of Glasgow.

ARDFILLAYNE, DUNOON, July 24th, 1862.

From JOSEPH D. EVERETT, A.M., (*Honours in Logic, Moral Philosophy, &c.*) *Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, and Astronomy in King's College, Windsor, Nova Scotia; Author of "The Philosophy of Teaching, or Psychology in its relation to Intellectual Culture."*

IPSWICH, July 31st, 1862.

HAVING been intimately acquainted with Mr. GEORGE S. MEE, as a fellow-student in the University of Glasgow, in the years 1855-6, I can speak with the utmost confidence as to his philosophical attainments; and I have no hesitation in saying that they are such as pre-eminently qualify him for a Chair of Mental or Moral Science.

He obtained the first prize in the senior division of the Logic Class (which includes Mental Science) by the unanimous votes of his class-mates, a circumstance of extremely rare occurrence; obtaining also the senior prize for an Essay on a given subject in the same class, and the University Silver Medal, open to all students in Logic and Moral Philosophy, for an Essay on the Distinction between the Reason and the Understanding. These honours were gained in his first year at Glasgow. In the second year he was no less distinguished as a student in the class of Moral Philosophy; but being compelled by illness to retire before the end of the session, he was disqualified from obtaining prizes.

Mr. MEE was universally regarded by his fellow-students as a man of remarkable philosophical power; and from the numerous opportunities which I had of conversing with him upon points which arose in the course of our philosophical studies, I can testify to his singular power of mental analysis, the habitual precision of his language, and the vigour of his style.

His genial temper and rich powers of conversation made him friends among all classes of students, and would soon render him at home in any British Colony.

I can conscientiously recommend Mr. MEE as a man remarkably well qualified to fill the vacant Chair in Queen's

College, Kingston; and I feel assured that so long as he occupies the post, the College will bear a high reputation as a School of Philosophy.

J. D. EVERETT, M.A.

Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and Astronomy
in King's College, Windsor, Nova Scotia.

*From WILLIAM WILLIAMS, B.A., (Wrangler); Scholar of Trinity
College, Cambridge; Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the
University of Glasgow.*

JOINVILLE-DE-PONT, *Près de Paris*,
27th August, 1862.

I UNDERSTAND that Mr. G. S. MEE is a Candidate for the Chair of Logic and Moral Philosophy at Queen's College, Kingston, and I feel great pleasure in bearing testimony to his qualifications for that office.

I was at Glasgow University one year with Mr. MEE, and I well remember the singular pre-eminence he attained in the Logic Class that year, not only by his able treatment, on paper, of the regular exercises prescribed to the students, but also by his ready and profound discussion of any difficult question that might casually occur in the daily oral examinations of the class. So high was the opinion entertained of him that he was unanimously voted the first prize by his fellow-students, and was also paid a singularly high compliment by the Professor of Logic at the general distribution of prizes, at the end of the session. These and the other high University distinctions won by Mr. MEE proved that his talents for metaphysical studies were of the highest order, and procured for him throughout the University the reputation of being a profound and mature philosopher. From what I know of his taste, capabilities,

and personal qualifications, I believe him to be eminently fitted to discharge the duties of the post he now solicits.

W. WILLIAMS, B.A.,

Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge.

*From GEORGE HARRY PALMER, ESQUIRE, A.M., Barrister-at-Law ;
First Prize-man in Logic, First Prize-man in Moral Philosophy,
and Silver Medallist of Glasgow University.*

LONDON, 3, WATERLOO PLACE, PALL-MALL,
30th July, 1862.

THE REV. GEORGE S. MEE being, as I understand, a candidate for the Chair of Logic and Philosophy in Queen's College, Kingston, the estimate of his qualifications for that office entertained by an old fellow-student and friend of some years standing is hereby offered respectfully, and with a sincerity becoming so responsible an act, to those gentlemen who may have to confer that appointment.

Gentlemen, that estimate is a very high one. From personal intercourse, frequently devoted to friendly argument and not unprofitable speculation; from the perusal of essays and dissertations on metaphysical subjects contributed by Mr. MEE; as well as from the general, I may indeed say, the unanimous opinion of those better able to judge than myself, I consider Mr. MEE a sound dialectician, in ratiocination subtle and comprehensive; a conscientious thinker, at the same time catholic in spirit; while the sustained power and clear diction exhibited in his public discourses induce me to believe that he would prove a successful teacher.

The College honours bestowed upon Mr. MEE by the suffrages of his fellow-students, as well as by the adjudica-

tion of the Professors, may be referred to as proofs of his eminence as a student. Those who knew him personally had other and better reasons for their esteem and expectations. I would mention specially that Mr. MEE was, I believe, one of the founders—was, at all events, one of the most useful and distinguished members—of the Literary and Philosophical Society—a College Society to which only the best men had the inclination or courage to seek admission.

Mr. MEE has made the mental and moral sciences his special study, and is, in my opinion, well qualified to undertake the office of a public teacher of philosophy.

G. HARRY PALMER, M.A.,

Barrister-at-Law.

*From BEN THOMAS WILLIAMS, ESQUIRE, A.M., Barrister-at-Law;
Silver Medallist of Glasgow University.*

MR. GEORGE S. MEE has been known to me for several years. I have also heard much of him from others; and am well acquainted with the position which he took at the Glasgow University, where he was one of the most distinguished students of his day. At this University he obtained the highest prizes in Logic and Metaphysics. His mind is philosophic in its character, and his mode of expression is at the same time accurate and fluent. I believe that he possesses, in a marked degree, the power of imparting to others the learning of which he is himself possessed. I have long had a sincere regard for Mr.

MEE's character as a gentleman, and admiration for his abilities and scholarly attainments. I feel assured that if elected to the Professorship for which he applies, he would confer honour upon those who had the discrimination to nominate him to it.

B. T. WILLIAMS.

10, NEW SQUARE, LINCOLN'S INN,
LONDON, 30th July, 1862.

From OLD CLASS-MATES in Logic and Moral Philosophy.

GLASGOW, 31st July, 1862.

REV. GEORGE S. MEE.
DEAR SIR,

We, who were formerly your Class-mates in the University of Glasgow, have great pleasure in expressing the very high opinion we entertain of your character, ability, and acquirements. Your profound and philosophical acquaintance with almost every branch of mental and moral science, and your powers of critical, expository, and controversial statement were such as to excite our warmest admiration. With subjects of general enquiry you were hardly less familiar.

We think you endowed with those rare qualities so essential to an effective teacher; and further, we do not hesitate to say that you would, in our opinion, fill the position of a Professor of Philosophy with the greatest credit.

It is our earnest hope that you will be successful in your present application.

We are, DEAR SIR,

Yours very sincerely,

DAVID BRAND.

GEO. PATERSON.

JAS. B. RUSSELL B.A., M.D., C.M.

JAMES PATTEN, M.A.

A. CRUM MACLAE.

G. JAMES MORRISON, C.E.

WILLIAM MUNSIE.

JOHN G. FRASER, M.A.

JOHN McNEIL.

JAMES BOYD, Member of the Faculty
of Procurators, Glasgow.

ROBERT BLACK, M.A.

GEORGE R. MATHER, M.D.

WALTER WHYTE.

ANDREW ORR.

WALTER WILLIAMSON.

J. M. ROBERTSON, Member of the
Faculty of Procurators, Glasgow.

DAVID PALMER, B.A.

WALTER ROBERTS, M.A.

JAMES GRAY.

ROBT. WORKMAN ORR.

GEORGE COPLAND, M.A.

JOHN MACINTYRE.

GAVIN MARTIN, M.A.

JOHN GILMOUR.

JOHN M. MILLS.

DANIEL TENNANT, B.A.

JOHN BLACKLOCK.

From ALEXANDER HARVEY, A.M., M.D., formerly Lecturer, sometime on the Institutes and afterwards on the Practice of Medicine, and now Professor of Materia Medica, in the University of Aberdeen; Author of "Letters on Administrative Reform of Medical Schools and Examining Boards," "Trees and their Nature," "On the Relation of Psychology to Physiology," &c.

It gives me very sincere pleasure to bear my humble testimony to the qualifications of the Rev. GEORGE S. MEE, of this place, for the Chair of Logic and Moral Philosophy in Queen's College University, Kingston.

Several years ago, at a time when I resided in the south of England, Mr. MEE became known to me, through correspondence with friends in Aberdeen, as a thinker and expositor, of the first order, in the department of Metaphysics, Psychology, and Logic; as a man thoroughly conversant with the Philosophy of Dr. Reid, Bishop Butler, Sir William Hamilton, and others in this country, as well as with the Philosophy of the German School; as himself a staunch supporter of our National Philosophy, and gifted in a singularly high degree with the power of unfolding and applying its principles, and of imbuing his hearers with a taste for it.

And since my return to Aberdeen, two years ago, to occupy a Chair in this University, all that I have seen and learnt of Mr. MEE, directly and indirectly, has served only to enhance the estimate I had previously been led to form of him, in the relations just adverted to. From intercourse I have had with him, as well as from opportunities I have occasionally enjoyed of hearing him preach, I have always been struck with his clear thinking and lucid exposition on subjects which to most minds are more or less abstruse and difficult, and with his judicious application of Mental and Moral Science to Christian Faith and Duty.

But perhaps no better illustration of his gifts as a thinker and speaker can well be given than the fact—which

many in this town could testify to the truth of—namely, this, that Mr. MEE has, for occasional voluntary hearers, every Sunday evening, in his own Chapel, large numbers of the more distinguished of our University students, of all Denominations, and in every Faculty.

Personally, I should much regret Mr. MEE's removal from Aberdeen. Still, I should exceedingly rejoice in his appointment to a Chair so entirely in keeping with his own tastes as that for which he is a candidate, and in which, I am persuaded, he would be found not merely a good *teacher*, but a good *trainer*—successful in an eminent degree in *informing* the minds of his pupils, and, no less, in guiding them in the *culture* and *discipline* of their own minds.

ALEX. HARVEY, A.M., M.D.

Professor of Materia Medica, in the University of Aberdeen.

ABERDEEN, July 30, 1862.

From ROBERT RATTRAY, M.D., *Medical Superintendent of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary; formerly Lecturer on Materia Medica in University and King's College,*

ABERDEEN, 30th July, 1862.

MY DEAR SIR,

As you have informed me that you have applied for the Chair of Logic and Moral Philosophy in Queen's College, Kingston, Upper Canada, I beg to say that, while I should regret your leaving Aberdeen, it would give me much pleasure were you appointed to a place for which I believe you to be well qualified, and which I know is so much suited to your tastes and habits of thought.

I am aware that you possess testimonials of your fitness for such a situation from persons who are in the highest degree capable of judging of your qualifications. It is also consistent with my knowledge that the departments of science which, if elected to the Professorship, you would be called on to teach are those to which, for a considerable part of your studentship, your attention was most enthusiastically and successfully devoted; and that during the time you have been in Aberdeen your critical ability, when directed to these subjects, has been fully acknowledged by people in this quarter whose opinions on such matters are entitled to much respect. Further, my dear Sir, permit me to say that you have gained the esteem and friendship of many respectable persons here, of various religious denominations, all of whom I am sure would be much gratified should you succeed in getting a settlement of which both your intelligence and amiable disposition make you worthy.

With best wishes for your success,

I remain, MY DEAR SIR,

Yours very truly,

ROBERT RATTRAY, M.D., &c.

THE REV. GEORGE S. MEE.

From JAMES A. STEEL, M.D.

I BEG to state that I have enjoyed the friendship of the Rev. GEORGE S. MEE, of Aberdeen, for several years, and have had frequent opportunities of interchanging thoughts with him on most subjects that interest thinking men.

During many pleasant interviews, I have often had occasion to admire the acuteness of his intellect, the wide range of his attainments, and the lucid manner in which he handled abstruse psychological questions. I consider, indeed, that he both possesses a logical capacity of the highest order and so rare a genius for metaphysical research as pre-eminently to qualify him for the elucidation of subjects connected with Mental Philosophy.

J. A. STEEL, M.D.

ABERDEEN, 30th July, 1862.

From the REV. GEORGE JAMIESON, A.M., Minister of the Parish of Old Machar; Author of "The Essentials of Philosophy."

OLD ABERDEEN, July 30, 1862.

The Rev. Mr. MEE of Aberdeen has intimated to me his desire to become a candidate for the Chair of Logic and Moral Philosophy in Queen's College, Kingston, Canada. I should suppose that few applicants will be found better qualified than he is for such an appointment. Having a mind highly stored with the varied acquisitions of literary and scientific truth; having a remarkable power of research in probing the foundations of truths; having the gift of generalization for the analysis of truth, which he has unsparingly cultivated; having the faculty of tracing the relationships of truth with great acuteness, so as the more clearly to set forth the region and the source of error; having given considerable attention to the abstract studies of Mental Science since he quitted the University of Glasgow,—Mr. MEE is a man fitted above most men I know for the functions of a Professor of Logic and Philosophy.

True it is that Mr. MEE is not a minister and a member of the Church of Scotland; but this I will venture to say, if there be one man more than another less imbued with the narrow idiosyncracies of denominationalism, and one man less likely than another to introduce any of those angularities which happen to divide Protestantism into departments, while (as I believe) he is most faithful and firm to all that every true protestant regards orthodoxy, that man is Mr. MEE.

Knowing, therefore, Mr. MEE's tastes and tendencies to lie very much within the sphere of the Logical, believing in his entire aptitude for teaching therein, and feeling assured that with his varied attainments and acute powers of ratiocination, he would do honour to a Chair of Mental Philosophy in any University, I have great pleasure in giving my humble word of recommendation for the office which he now solicits.

GEORGE JAMIESON,

Minister of Old Machar.

From the REV. ROBERT FLINT, M.A., (Honours in Logic and Philosophy); Minister formerly of the East Parish of Aberdeen, and now of Kilconquhar.

KILCONQUHAR MANSE, July 15th 1862.

MY DEAR MEE,

I am not personally acquainted with Principal Leitch, but I shall have much pleasure, indeed, in writing to him strongly in your favour.

I wish very strongly that you may obtain this appointment, and think you far more than qualified for it.

Yours sincerely,

R. FLINT.

KILCONQUHAR MANSE, July 30, 1862.

I sincerely wish you installed Professor of Logic and Moral Philosophy, and I have no doubt that you would bring up some pearls of price from the "vasty deep" of consciousness.

I am, my dear Mee,

Yours truly,

R. FLINT.

REV. GEO. S. MEE.

From the Rev. JOHN PEDEN BELL, Minister of the United Presbyterian Congregation of Midmar; Senior Prizeman in Moral Philosophy, &c., of Glasgow University; Author of "Christian Sociology," and "Mercy as conditioned by Righteousness."

EDINBURGH, 7th August, 1862.

I HAVE, during the last two years, been intimately acquainted with the Rev. Mr. MEE of Aberdeen. This acquaintanceship was sought on my part by reason of the high character which Mr. MEE, upon coming to our locality, at that to an obscure and unfavourable position, soon acquired as a gentleman of true moral worth and of eminent intellectual powers; but it was specially sought on my part by reason of the hearty and unqualified terms of confidence, love, and admiration, in which my friend, the late Rev. Henry Angus of Aberdeen, was wont to speak of Mr. MEE. Since this acquaintanceship was formed, Mr. MEE and I have had a good amount of ministerial intercourse, but much more of private friendly intercourse and

of sitting together, for hours, discussing or conversing about some department in Philosophy; and from these conversations I have derived great pleasure, and very considerable profit.

From all that I thus know of Mr. MEE, I regard him, high as he stands in estimate by the more intelligent and intellectual of our population, to be as yet unknown; and I feel convinced that could he be so situated as to be enabled to devote himself somewhat exclusively to study and teaching in such departments as Logic, Mental and Moral Philosophy, that he would be in his proper sphere, and would give himself with love, fidelity, and great power to his proper work; and that, from his rich acquisitions in such subjects, his well-digested views, his not unfrequently original and well-matured conceptions, and his lucid and highly appropriate forms of expression, those under his tuition would enjoy high and rare advantages.

JOHN PEDEN BELL,

Minister of Midmar United Presbyterian Congregation

From DAVID M'HARDY, Esquire, J.P., Aberdeen.

ABERDEEN, 4th August, 1862.

MY DEAR MR. MEE,

It affords me sincere pleasure to offer my testimony to the excellence of your character, and to your peculiar fitness for the Chair of Logic and Philosophy in Queen's College, Upper Canada.

For several years during the winter months (when I reside in town), along with the members of my family, I have been often present at your Sabbath evening services in John Street Chapel.

I have especially marked your intellectual ability in the wide range and originality of thought, the clearness and force of your illustrations, and the chaste propriety of the language with which your discourses are delivered. This is not my opinion only, but that of many of my own friends belonging to the Free and Established Churches, who are drawn to attend your services by the character which you have thus earned for yourself; and this is, probably, as much proved by the presence of so large a number of the Students attending the Divinity Classes in the University.

I shall indeed be very happy, on your own account, if you succeed in your present application, and it will afford me pleasure if I can be of any service to you in this object, either in my public or private capacity.

I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,

DAV. M'HARDY.

From WILLIAM M'COMBIE, Author of "Hours of Thought," "Moral Agency," "Right and Wrong in the Relations of Capital, Machinery and Land, to Labour," &c.

I have known the Rev. G. S. MEE now for nearly five years, and during that time, as a member of the Church of which he is at present pastor, as well as in free social intercourse, have had ample opportunities of judging of his mental endowments, acquirements, and culture. These are all of a very high order. His intellect is at once keen, penetrating, and comprehensive. He combines in rare measure (what is rare in combination at all,) great logical acuteness with a power of intuition, enabling him to detect a common princi-

ple under phenomena lying on the surface widely apart. He has studied Logic and Metaphysics thoroughly, and his power of Moral Analysis is great. Combined with all this is a literary culture of the highest and most refined type, and the ready command of a most lucid and felicitous style. Altogether it has never been my good fortune to meet with a young man combining so many excellencies of mental endowment, scholarly acquirement, and refined culture; to all which I most cheerfully bear testimony, yet under a feeling of most profound regret at the prospect of being deprived of the benefit of his instruction and inspiring influence.

WILLIAM M'COMBIE,

Editor of "Aberdeen Free Press."

CAIRNBALLOCH, 4th August, 1862.

From GRADUATES, Communicants of John Street Church, Aberdeen.

ABERDEEN, August, 1862.

WE, the Undersigned, have been for several years hearers of the Rev. G. S. MEE, and members of the Church over which he presides.

We desire to express our high esteem for Mr. MEE as a Teacher, and especially to testify to the talent he has displayed in bringing to bear on the themes he has discussed an extensive and accurate acquaintance with Mental Philosophy. Mr. MEE has always laboured with great zeal and earnestness to exhibit the Philosophy of Christianity, and we humbly think with commensurate success.

It is with much pleasure, therefore, that we have heard that he is a candidate for the Chair of Philosophy and Logic, at Kingston. We believe that his tastes, talents,

and acquirements eminently fit him for such a position, and that in it he would gain the highest respect and honour for himself, by rendering important services to those who should have the privilege of being his pupils.

WILLIAM COPLAND, A.M.

Gold Medal for General Eminence,
Marischal College.

ROBERT WALKER, A.M.

PETER SMITH, A.M.

*From THOMAS DAVIES, D.D., President of Haverfordwest College,
Wales.*

HAVING had some opportunities of judging of the attainments of the Rev. GEO. S. MEE in Metaphysical Science, I have great pleasure in bearing my humble testimony to the extent and solidity of his philosophical knowledge. His conversations and discourses have led me to form a very high estimate of him as an accurate thinker, and an apt and effective Teacher. He would, I feel persuaded, distinguish himself as Lecturer on Logic and Philosophy.

THOS. DAVIES,

President.

HAVERFORDWEST COLLEGE,
July 31st, 1862.